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NHC 12/12/07



PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 03327.2333-00

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
Yasuhiro OKUMOTO et al.	) Group Art Unit: 1762
Application No.: 10/539,246	) ) Examiner: Empie, Nathan H. )
Filed: May 9, 2006	
For: PROCESSING METHOD AND	) Confirmation No.: 9261

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

## **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed September 10, 2007, the period for response to which extends through December 10, 2007, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants propose that this application be amended as follows:

**Proposed Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper and begin on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment section of this paper.